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| **APPLICATION DEADLINE: 15 November 2017**  **To submit application and for more information, contact:**  Chanthalangsy Sisouvanh, Center Manager  Rural Development Agency (RDA)  Lao-Thai Friendship Road, Unit 15 Ban Vatnak, Sisattanak District  Vientiane Capital, Laos  Tel: 856 021 315457, Fax: 856 21 9130  [chanthalangsy@rda.org.la](mailto:chanthalangsy@rda.org.la)  Welcome to the Spring 2018 Application to the Professional Fellows Program for Laos! The Mansfield Center of the University of Montana and the U.S. Department of State appreciate your interest in this program.  The YSEALI Professional Fellows Program is a professional development exchange program for the best and brightest community leaders from ASEAN, working in the fields of civic engagement, economic empowerment, environmental sustainability, and governance and society. The YSEALI Professional Fellows Program provides participants a month-long fellowship at U.S.-based non-profit organizations, government offices, legislative bodies, or private sector organizations. Fellows will work with community leaders to enhance their practical expertise, leadership skills and professional contacts to address issues in their home communities.  YSEALI programs strengthen leadership development and networking in ASEAN, deepen engagement with young leaders on key regional and global challenges, and strengthen people-to-people ties between the United States and young Southeast Asian leaders. The YSEALI Professional Fellows Program is part of the broader Professional Fellows exchange program.  Learn more about the [Professional Fellows Program](https://exchanges.state.gov/non-us/program/professional-fellows-program) and [YSEALI](https://asean.usmission.gov/yseali/).  **All applications must be completed and submitted by midnight, November 15, 2017 in your home country's timezone.**  Please note that this is one of numerous Professional Fellows. You are restricted to applying to ***one*** Professional Fellows Program during the spring 2018 application.  If it is determined that you have applied to more than one Fellows program during this application period, your application will be deemed ineligible and your name will be removed from consideration.  **To submit application, email completed form to Chanthalangsy Sisouvanh at** [chanthalangsy@rda.org.la](mailto:chanthalangsy@rda.org.la)**.** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1. **BASIC INFORMATION** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **Full name** (exactly as it would appear on your passport): | | | Family Name:  First Name:  Middle Name: | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **Gender (as it appears on your passport):**  **☐**Male  **☐**Female | | | | **Date of birth** (please use the format of year/month/day; example: 2017/11/01): | | | | | | | | | | | | **Age** (eligibility is between the ages of 25-35 ONLY)**:** | | |
| **City, Province, and Country of birth:** | | | | | | | | | | | | **Citizenship:** | | | | | | |
| Home address: | | | | | | | | | | | City: | | | | | | | |
| Province: | | | | | | | | | | | Country: | | | | | | | |
| Home telephone (including country/city code): | | | | | | Mobile phone (including country/city code): | | | | | | | | | Personal email: | | | |
| Do you prefer we use your work or personal email to communicate with you? | | | | | | | | ☐Work email  ☐Personal email | | | | | | | | | | |
| **If selected to participate in the program, would you require any special assistance or accommodation due to a disability or special need?** 🞏 Yes 🞏 No  **If you answered YES to the question above, please provide more details so that we may best accommodate your needs should you be selected:**  *The U.S. government and the Maureen and Mike Mansfield Center do not discriminate against applicants because of race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, disability, or any other protected characteristic as established by U.S. law.* | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1. **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **The Young Southeast Asian Leaders Initiative is organized around four thematic areas. Please select ONE thematic area that matches your current work and professional goals:**  🞏 Civic Engagement 🞏 Economic Empowerment 🞏 Environmental Sustainability 🞏 Governance and Society | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **Are you currently employed?** 🞏 Yes 🞏 No | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| If yes, do you work:🞏 Full-time 🞏 Part-time | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Job Title: | | | | | | | | | | Name of employing organization: | | | | | | | | |
| Start date at this employer(MM/YYYY): | | | | | | | | | | Number of staff you supervise: | | | | | | | | |
| Name of your supervisor: | | | | | | | | | | Supervisor email: | | | | | | | | |
| Work address: | | | | | | | | | | City: | | | | | | | | |
| Province: | | | | | | | | | | Country: | | | | | | | | |
| Please list a business web address if you have one: | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Work telephone (including country/city code): | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Work email: | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **Check ONE category that best describes your organization:**  🞏 National government 🞏 Local or regional government 🞏 Local non-governmental organization  🞏 International non-governmental organization 🞏 Multilateral organization (ex. UN) 🞏Media outlet  🞏 Local or national business 🞏 International business 🞏 Educational institution | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **Choose ONE category that best describes your organization:**  🞏 National capital 🞏 Other 🞏Major City 🞏 Rural/small city | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **Please describe your work and how it relates to the goals of this program:** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| **Past work experience:** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| **Educational Background.**  Please specify degrees and training, major or field of training, and year degree of certificate completed. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| **Volunteer experience and memberships in associations or clubs.** Please describe your current volunteer activities, including type of activity, organization affiliation, and general time commitment.  Please also describe any recent positions of responsibility held with volunteer organizations. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| 1. **INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **Have you traveled to the United States before?** 🞏 Yes 🞏 No | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **If yes, please provide information regarding your past travel to the United States.** This should include any travel to the U.S. for school, training, business, or personal travel. Please provide dates, reason for travel, and the type of visa you traveled on. If you have travel planned, but have not yet traveled, please provide that information as well. Please provide the source of funding for your trip. For example, if you traveled to the U.S. for school, who funded your schooling? | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **Date of Entry to U.S.** | **Date of Exit from U.S.** | | | | **U.S. Visa Type (J, F, B, etc.)** | | | | **Host Institution (if applicable)** | | | | | **Purpose of Travel (study, personal, business, etc.)** | | | **Funding Source or Sponsor (personal, U.S. government, etc.)** | |
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| **If yes, have you ever overstayed the dates allowed by your visa**? 🞏 Yes 🞏 No | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **Family residing in the US** (please list names, relationship to you, and visa category, if known): | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| **Prior travel outside your home country in the past five years** (other than the US): | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| **Do you have a passport?** If so, *please attach a scan of the information page* which includes your name and personal information. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **Passport type:** 🞏 Official 🞏 Personal  **Passport number:**  **Country of issue:**  **Date of issue** (YYYY/MM/DD):  **Expiration date** ( YYYY/MM/DD): | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **Are you a U.S. permanent resident or hold a green card?** 🞏 Yes 🞏 No | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1. **ENGLISH LANGUAGE SKILLS** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **Please provide an accurate assessment of your English language proficiency.** High-level proficiency in English is required for this program. Mark an “x” in the box that corresponds with your English language skills in the categories below. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|  | | ***Reading*** | | | | | ***Writing*** | | | | | | ***Speaking*** | | | | | ***Listening Comprehension*** |
| ***Native*** | |  | | | | |  | | | | | |  | | | | |  |
| ***Excellent*** | |  | | | | |  | | | | | |  | | | | |  |
| ***Good*** | |  | | | | |  | | | | | |  | | | | |  |
| ***Fair*** | |  | | | | |  | | | | | |  | | | | |  |
| ***Poor*** | |  | | | | |  | | | | | |  | | | | |  |
| **Please describe any professional or personal duties or activities that you currently conduct in English.** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| **Do you speak any other languages?** (If so, please indicate fluency) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| 1. **PROFESSIONAL & PERSONAL GOALS, INTEREST, & MOTIVATION** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **Please write a short biographic paragraph, written in third person, which would be used in program materials to tell others about you, should you be chosen for the program.** This paragraph should include a short summary of your professional work, educational background, family, and personal interests. It should tell people about who you are and what is important to know about you. This paragraph would be read by program officials, your fellowship host, and others interested in learning about the program. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| **What do you specifically wish to learn from this program, and how would it impact: a) your current work and the people you serve; b) your community; and c) your long-term goals?** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| **Please tell us if you have discussed this program with your supervisor or colleagues, and if your organization has agreed to your participation in the program and your absence for the five-week length of the program in the U.S.** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| **To participate in this program, you must agree to host a U.S. partner in your organization and community for a period of 10-14 days. Do you and your organization agree to host a U.S. partner if asked?** This does not mean that you definitely will host, but you must be willing and agree to host as part of this application process. Your partner may visit any time between August 1, 2018 and June 30, 2019. Please note if there are any dates during this time frame that are not possible given your work commitments, local holidays, and other considerations. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| **If you are chosen for this program, you would either travel to the US from approximately April 19 – May 26, 2018. (While these dates are expected, they are not definite.)**  Please note whether you are available to participate in this time frame. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| **Participants in this program are placed in a Fellowship for four weeks in an organization similar to yours in Montana, Idaho, Washington, or Colorado. Describe the type of organization you would like to be placed with to meet your professional goals.** This is very important to help us understand the work that you do, the work you would like to learn about, and your specific motivation for joining this fellowship program. We recommend that you do some Internet research on organizations located throughout the state of Montana; the city of Boise, Idaho; the city of Spokane, Washington; and the city of Denver, Colorado and make specific suggestions to strengthen your application. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| **I wish to join the YSEALI Network to access virtual resources and networking opportunities for young Southeast Asian leaders.\*** 🞏 Yes 🞏 No | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **How did you learn about the YSEALI Professional Fellows Program? (Check all that apply)**  🞏 U.S. Embassy 🞏 U.S. State Department website 🞏 Internet search 🞏 Professional listserv or newsletter  🞏 Local press (TV, radio, newspaper) 🞏 Social media site (Facebook, Twitter, etc.)  🞏 Recommendation by a colleague/partner organization (name of colleague/organization):  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  🞏 Other: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

**Validating Application**

I certify that the information given in this application and all attached materials is complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge.  In signing this application I certify that I am not an employee, spouse, or a dependent of an employee of (Program Agency) or the U.S. Department of State.  I understand that in addition to the selection process outlined in this application, the final decision of my application and my status as a YSEALI Professional Fellow is contingent upon program funding, on the ability of (Program Agency) to place me at an appropriate U.S. organization, and on my ability to receive and maintain a J-1 visa to the United States.  If selected as a YSEALI Professional Fellow finalist, I agree to abide by the stipulations of the J-1 visa requirements, and by all program regulations, and to return to my home country for a minimum of two years upon completion of the YSEALI Professional Fellows Program.

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**Signature                                                                                Date**